50th Golden Anniversary Death Valley '49ers Encampment

$6.00

November 10-14, 1999

Promote understanding and appreciation
of Death Valley and its history

DEATH VALLEY '49ERS STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of the Death Valley '49ers is to promote understanding and appreciation of Death Valley and its history.
The Death Valley '49ers is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that seeks to expand public awareness of Death Valley as a highly valued national resource and recreational area protected and preserved by the National Park Service and others for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.
The aim of the '49ers is to foster appreciation of Death Valley as a rare desert environment having unique natural and cultural histories and which played an important role in the settlement of the West and the addition of California to the Union.
Special recognition is given to the California-bound pioneer wagon parties of 1849-50 whose indomitable will to survive and persevere through the ordeal of that winter serves as an enduring example of the hardy spirit of all Americans who traveled far searching for new and better lives. The Death Valley '49ers sponsor the Annual Encampment each November to celebrate this pioneer spirit and this special place called Death Valley.

DEATH VALLEY '49ers, Incorporated

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Charlotte Butler, Gene Butler, Don Casler, Paul Clark, Dick Conn, Sue Conn, Dan Cronkhite, Delores Edwards, Bill Geist, Jerry Graham, Jim Graves, Nancy Graves, Ken Graydon, Phee Sherline Graydon, Joe Gumm, Wanda Gumm, Shirley Harding, Diane Heffner, Judi Hicks, Jeanne Freeman Hobbs, Mary Jessey, Jean Johnson, Leroy Johnson, Dale Jones, Leone Jones, Tom Leftwich, Bill Lyon, John Marsh, W. Garfield McDaniel, Lou Nunn, Marian Peck, Gene Pickering, Janet Pickering, Bill Pool, Edie Pool, Bonnie Preston, Keith Pringle, Barbara Reber, Ed Rothfuss, Bill Ruhlow, Cornel Rylaarsdam, Bette Sisson, Ray Sisson, E. Calvert Steibel, Joyce Tullis.

LIFE DIRECTORS Robert Lee Crosby, Mary DeDecker, Paul DeDecker, Perry Deters, Dave Heffner, Galen Hicks, Joe Lehman, Dean Lemon, Robert Logsdon, Elmore Nelson, Bill Newbro, Mike Nunn, Raymond Peter, Dee Dee Ruhlow, Earl Schmidt,Jr., Harry Tucker, Richard Tullis.

HONORARY DIRECTORS Bill Bender, Frances Burns, Richard D. Crowe, Leslie B. DeMille, Walt Geisen, Alice Hicks, Dick Hilleary, Russ Johnson, Mrs. Willard (Peg) Lewis, Dick Martin, Robert Murphy, Phil Nadler, Trevor Povah, Ed Rothfuss, Jack Stoddard, George Sturtevant, Hugh Tolford.

ADVISORS Florence Blacharski Iris Carey, Agnes Casler, Isobell Mary Collins, Blair Davenport, Max "Doc" Denning, Joanne Deters, Gene Elmore, Wanda Elmore, Ted Faye, Esy Fields, Sophia Finfrock, Chuck Fiske, Chuck Flynn, Virginia Flynn, Hildegard Geist, Ron Graham, Linda Greene, Doris Harden, William "Bill" Hobbs, Beverly Hull, Marvin Jensen, Mary Alice Jensen, Fran Leftwich, Mary Lehman, Carol Lindberg, Mike Lindberg, Joan Newbro, Joanne Parsons, Ella Powers, Jaylyle Redmon, Don Redmon, Arlene Rylaarsdam, Ron Sharpless, Susan Sorrells, Dave Stomps, Mel Summers, Bill Whitfield.

ASSOCIATES Gene Barilotti, Tom Bent, Chris Brewer, Brian Brown, Dewey Carpenter, Jerry Compton, Derrick Elliott, Wes Ems, Mille Funk, Dave Gark, Edith Gark, Nan Gering, June Geisen, Richard Goodman, Eugene Hoffman,Robert Jackson, Cal Jepson, Anthony Kroll, Natalie McIntosh, Carl Muth, Steven Orcutt, Don Richardson, Dennis Riesmeyer, Doug Shearer, Gene Tackett, Frank Thompson, Marian Thompson, Robert Uecker, Arnie Vander Broek, Tay Wilson.

DEDICATION To the fifty men and women who have served as president of the Death Valley '49ers over the past fifty years, we gratefully dedicate this book. Under their leadership, an efficient organization has been formed to be of service to the community, bringing pleasure and knowledge to its members.

Death Valley '49ers

Ray Sisson, President and wife Bette

50th **1949-1999**

DEATH VALLEY '49ERS NON-PROFIT CORP.

November 10-14, 1999
Death Valley, California

Executive Committee

Lee Crosby, past president
Bette Sisson, secretary
Edie Pool, 1st vice president, treasurer
Sue Conn, 2nd vice president

President's Message

Bette and I welcome you to this years 50th Annual Death Valley '49ers Encampment. Yes, this is our Golden Anniversary, and we want to thank you for your support through all these years.

This year also marks the 150th anniversary of the escape of the pioneer '49ers from Death Valley. The Bennett and Arcan families were two groups stranded here in 1849. William Manly and John Rogers found a way out over the Panamint Mountains, hiking several hundred miles, suffered extreme hardships but returned with food and supplies to rescue these families. Years later Manly wrote chronicles and a book describing his sojourn to the gold fields. Manly received much publicity, but Rogers essentially disappeared and little is known about him except what Manly related in his writings Roger and Manly were equally heroic and I thought it very apropos this year to honor Rogers. John Rogers, Death Valley's Unsung Hero of 1849 is the title of the keepsake and the subject of the Presidents Cloisonne pin.

This book is a special '49ers publication in commemoration of our Golden Anniversary. It presents our people, the history of the '49ers and the highlights of the Encampment. Thank you for your support.

Ray Sisson, '49er President

'49ERS 1999
DEATH VALLEY ENCAMPMENT
JOHN HANEY ROGERS
UNSUNG HERO, 1849

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Death Valley, California - 92328

Cover Photos Courtesy of Bob Logsdon, The U.S. Borax Co. and the Death Valley Archives

Death Valley National Park

Dick Martin, park superintendent

Superintendent's Message

On behalf of the staff of Death Valley National Park, I would like to congratulate the Death Valley '49ers and the State of California on the occasion of their Golden Anniversary and Sesquicentennial celebrations. Traditionally, commemorative celebrations are a time to reflect on the past and look towards the future. In contemplating the changes of the past one hundred and fifty years, the importance of preserving our cultural and natural treasures has become increasingly apparent. We are pleased that the Death Valley '49ers have continued to work with us as partners and share the long-term commitment of the National Park Service in pursuing this goal.

Richard M. Martin
Superintendent
Death Valley National Park

The Death Valley '49ers thank the D.V.N.P. Superintendents and their staff for their assistance during the Encampments.

DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK
PARK DEDICATION
November 10, 1995

After lengthy debate, President Hoover established Death Valley National Monument in 1933, encompassing 1.6 million acres. The monument was expanded by 304,000 acres in 1937 and in 1952, Devil's Hole was added. The Desert Protection Act, signed into law by President Clinton on October 31, 1994, transferred 1.3 million acres to Death Valley and created Death Valley National Park as the largest National Park in the continental United States.

John R. White	February 1933 - November 1937
T.R. Goodwin	November 1937 - March 1954
Fred W. Bennewies	April 1954 - February 1960
Granville B. Liles	February 1960 - August 1962
John A. Aubuchon	August 1962 - January 1966
John W. Stratton	January 1966 - September 1968
Robert J. Murphy	September 1968 - September 1972
James B. Thompson	September 1972 - April 1976
Donald M. Spalding	June 1976 - September 1978
George Von der Lippe	September 1978 - July 1982
Edwin L. Rothfuss	September 1982 - December 1994
Richard Martin	January 1995

Dedications to Our Pioneer '49ers

Frank Doty presents Supt. T.R. Goodwin with gun carried through Death Valley in 1849 by his grandfather, Ed Doty of the Jayhawkers. Dec. 3, 1949

Burned Wagon Point Monument at Stove Pipe Wells - Mrs. George Palmer Putman and L. Burr Belden, Nov. 15, 1953

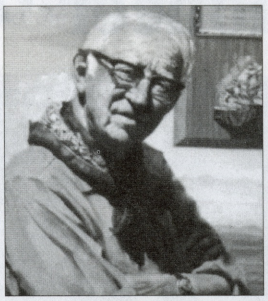
Mary Alice Jensen and Judy Jensen with the Wade Plaque, Nov. 8, 1957

Horace M. Albright - 1890-1983

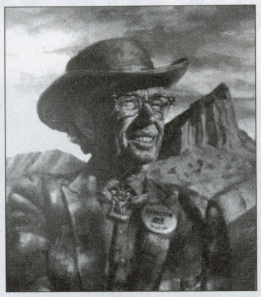
After the 50th Anniversary of the Death Valley National Monument luncheon in 1983, Former Director of the National Park Service, Horace M. Albright, requested to have his photograph taken with the Death Valley '49ers who were present. He praised the Death Valley '49ers in his speech. "On top of all the help from the government agencies, we have something that very, very few parks have. That is the support of an enthusiastic group of people outside the Park Service. We have the Death Valley '49ers. Since the 100th anniversary of California, we have had the Death Valley '49ers and they have done wonders here in support of the Park Service. They have helped us get the Museum and Visitor Center, which are the best among the park system, and restore the Harmony Borax Works and doing many other important items. And always standing by to help. Never criticizing adversely but standing ready to add their support, even financial, to make this park one of the greatest and most beloved of all."

Past Presidents Death Valley '49ers

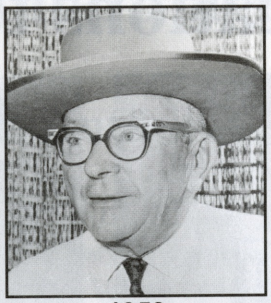
1949
Andy W. Noon*



1950-51
John Anson Ford*

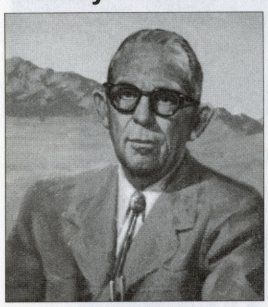


1952
Ardis Manly Walker*

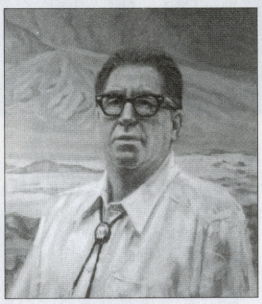


1953
Paul Palmer*

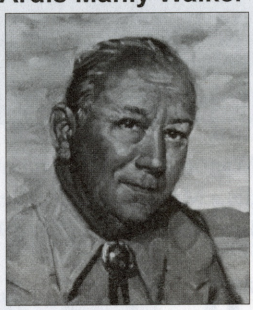
1954
George W. Savage*



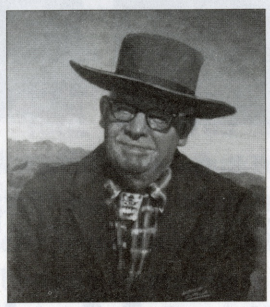
1960
Ralph Palmer Merritt*



1961
George H. Sturtevent

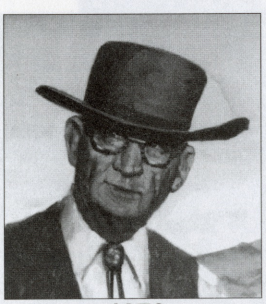


1962
Charles A. Scholl*

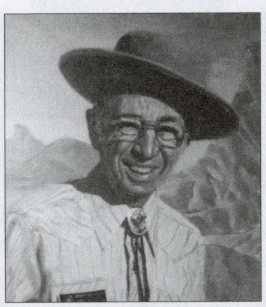


1963
Ralph A. Fear*

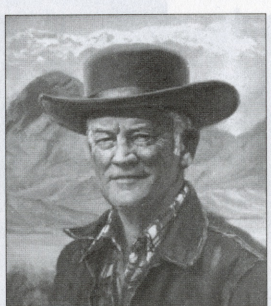
1964
Arthur W. Walker*



1970
Tom Mathew*

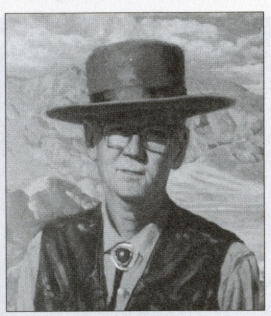


1971
Paul W. DeDecker

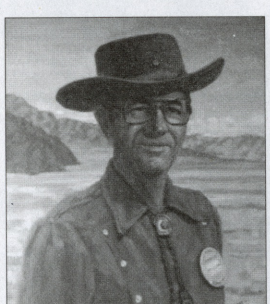


1972
Dean Lemon

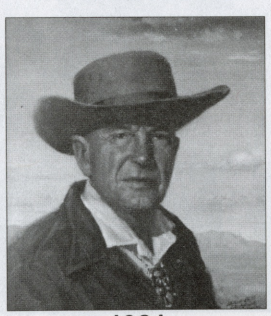
1973
William H. Newbro



1974
R. Chalmers Graham*

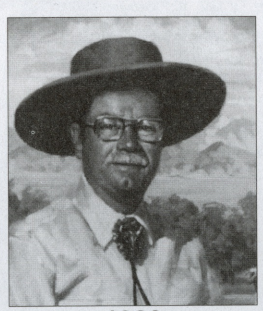


1980
R. Jack Stoddard*

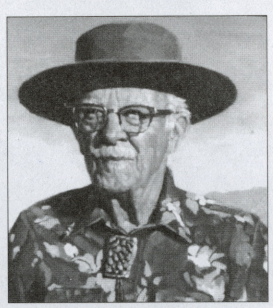


1981
Russ Johnson

1982
Richard D. Crowe

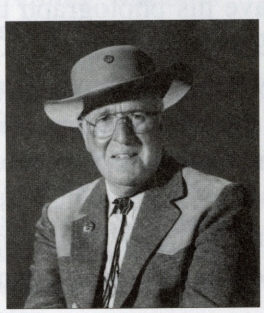


1983
Joe Lehman

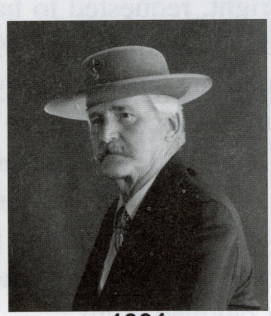


1984
Merle E. Wilson<>

1989
Harry Tucker
*Stovepipe Wells

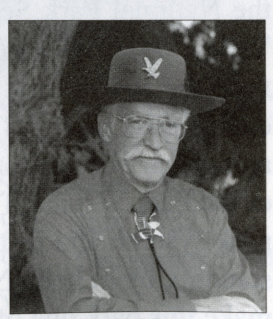


1990
Earl F. Schmidt
*Washingtonia Palm

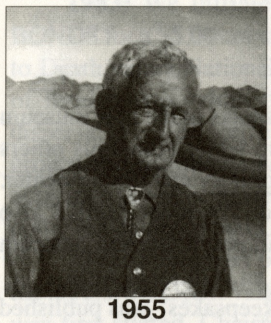


1991
Dave Heffner
*Old Dinah

1992
Perry Deters
*Coyote

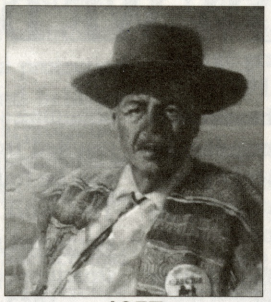


1993
Galen Hicks
*Charcoal Kilns

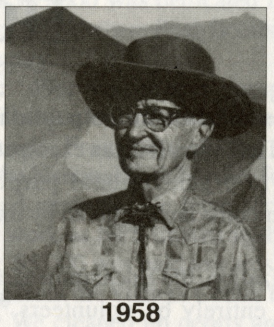


1955
Dr. Thomas Clements*

1956
Mrs. W. (Peg) Lewis

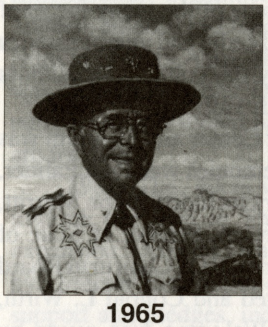


1957
L. Burr Belden*



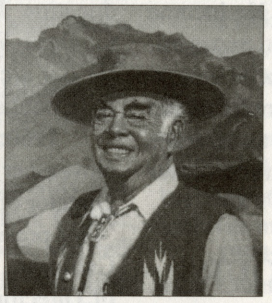
1958
Alex Krater*

1959
H. Harold Ihrig*

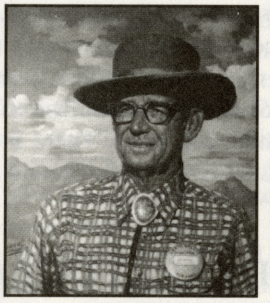


1965
Hugh C. Tolford

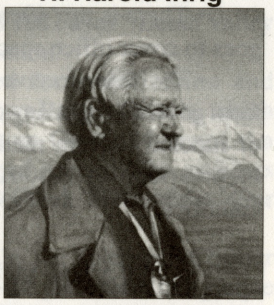
1966
Mrs. Hazel Henderson*



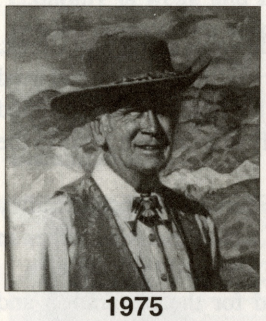
1967
Leo S. Moore*



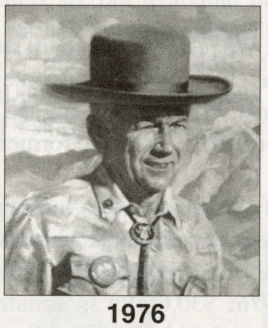
1968
Edward P. Jones*



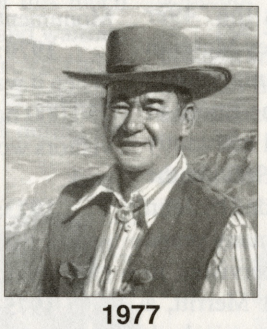
1969
J. Emil "Aim" Morhardt*



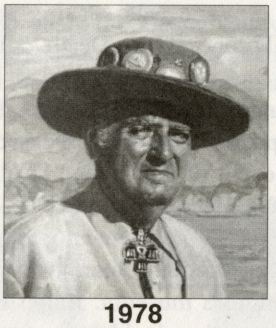
1975
George Koenig*



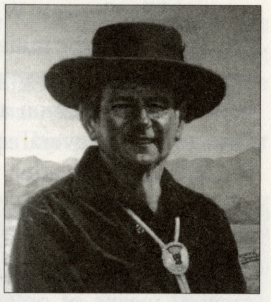
1976
Robert Logsdon



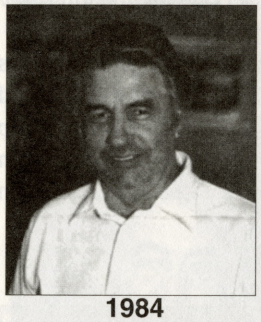
1977
Palmer Long*



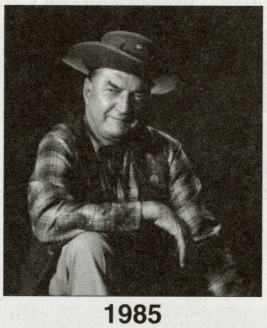
1978
Ross Dorsett*



1979
Elmore Nelson



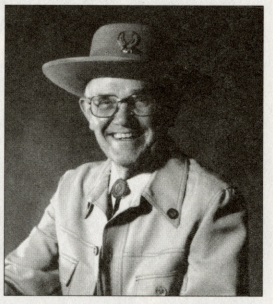
1984
Leslie B. DeMille



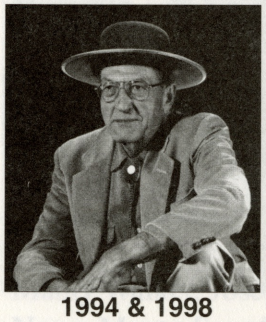
1985
Arthur D. Guy, Jr.*
* Manly/Rogers

1986
George Jensen*
*Desert Bighorn

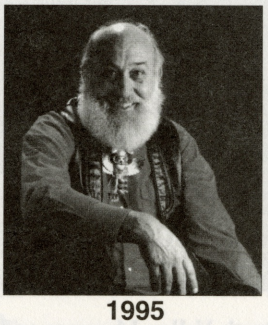
1987
Mrs. Mary DeDecker
*Rock Midget



1988
Raymond J. Peter
*Prospector & Burro

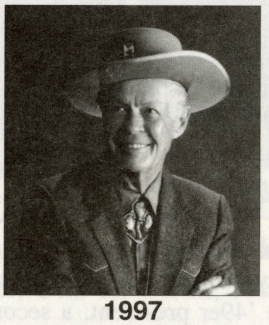


1994 & 1998
Lee Crosby
*Timbisha-Shoshone
*Desert Holly



1995
Mike Nunn
*Death Valley RR

1996
DeeDee Ruhlow
*Clock Tower



1997
Richard Tullis
*Keane Wonder Mine

**** Deceased***
<> Expired During Term in Office
Artist of Portraits
Les DeMille
Past '49er President
Photographer of Portraits
Tom Robertson
****President's Cloisonne***

HOW WE DO IT

• The '49ers are established in the public interest as a non-profit organization. The '49ers IRS tax exempt status means income goes directly to organizational purposes. Dues, contributions and other income are not taxed by the state or the federal government.

• The '49ers organization, the Encampment, and all other activities are managed entirely by volunteers. There is no professional staff.

• There is no '49ers corporate headquarters. No income goes to cover office space and equipment overhead expenses.

• The '49ers receive no subsidies or direct financial support from government or any other organization. The primary source of income is from membership sales. There is an average membership of 2,000, many of whom come from other countries.

WAYS WE CARRY OUT OUR MISSION

1953: George W. Savage was serving as the '49er president when the initial proposal for a Death Valley Museum was presented. During the seven-year period intervening between the initiation and the 1960 dedication, the Board of Directors and several special committees worked constantly towards the dedication event of November 12, 1960. At the onset President Savage appointed a committee headed by John Anson Ford, the '49er 1950-51 president and, for many years, chairman of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, to explore means of obtaining a museum. Ralph P. Merritt, a former Inyo County man with valuable connections in both Washington and Sacramento, was named co-chairman. Also on the committee were Atty. Paul Palmer, their immediate past president, and Arthur W. Walker, '49er treasurer. State Senator Charles A. Brown of Shoshone, one of the senior members of the California Legislature and an Inyo County resident for more than half a century, next introduced a bill which authorized the State to erect a museum as a State Beaches and Parks project. The measure passed as did a subsequent directive for an appropriation of $350,000. Before the museum could be erected, however, a site needed selection and approval. The one felt most suitable, both because of central location and water supply, was a 90 acre parcel north of the Furnace Creek date gardens, generally known as that of the "old airport". This was donated to the National Park Service by the owners, Borax (Holding) Limited, through its subsidiary, the Death Valley Hotel Co. In its share of the joint venture, the National Park Service provided $425,000 of Federal funds. It is not difficult to see why such a major project with its numerous facets took more than a year or two to bring into accomplishment.

To the Death Valley '49ers the Death Valley Museum and Visitors Center was by no means the end. When ground was first broken for this facility during the 1957 Encampment, while L. Burr Belden was the '49er president, a second museum committee was named and charged with tracking down and obtaining suitable artifacts. Many displays in the new museum resulted from the work of this group while numerous others may be found in the preparatory laboratory and library center. This work will never be completed. President Merritt also suggested this be a '49er project and noted that the museum structure could easily accommodate an additional wing.

1952: The first of our annual "keepsakes" was published and handed out to purchasers of the annual membership donation. These little books cover some of the many facets of the Death Valley history. We produced audio and video cassettes for our archives and for purchase by the public. Our authors have published many books on Death Valley.

1960: Dedication of the Visitor Center and Museum was November 12th. The Master of Ceremonies was Paul Palmer, Director of the '49ers. Other speakers included Ralph Merritt, '49er president, Hon. Charles A. Brown, Senator of State of California, The Rt. Hon. Lord Clitheroe, P.C., Chairman Board of Directors Borax (Holding) Limited and Conrad L. Wirth, Director, National Park Service. Welcome was given by Granville Liles, Superintendent, Death Valley National Monument.

1970: We restored the board sidewalks along Salt Creek. When it was completed the carpenters estimated they had used 750,000 nails. We also campaigned for funds so handicapped visitors would have access to formerly unavailable areas in the park.

1973: We conducted a mining survey of Owens Valley mines, based on courthouse records which included mines in Death Valley, and presented it to the National Park Service.

1975-76: $30,000 was donated for the restoration and stabilization of Old Harmony Borax Works. $1000.00 was annually donated to the National Park Service for updating and/or replacing interpretive signs in the park.

1976: The Death Valley '49er Scholarship program was started by Director Lydia Clements. Director Art Guy served as the first chairman. This program has provided scholarship assistance to qualified graduates for more than 20 years. In 1987 two received scholarships through a special grant from the Directors.

Death Valley Museum and Visitors' Center

1983: We initiated and offered the public BURRO BONDS for a $5.00 contribution. These funds were contributed to Death valley National Monument for the initial protection of feral burros while they were rounded-up and held for dispersal to new adoptive homes by organized animal protective groups and for other environmental and historic preservation activities as may protect Death Valley. Over $5,000 was collected on this project.

1987: Sponsored by Amfac, National Park Service and the '49ers, the Death Valley History and PreHistory Conference was first started. Chairman was U.C.S.D. Professor Richard Lingenfelter, organizer and Treasurer was Director Hugh Tolford, assisted by Director Mary DeDecker. The Death Valley Natural History Assn. also participated. The 1999 conference was chaired by '49er Directors Jean and Leroy Johnson. 15 participants presented papers. Publications of the proceeding are for sale.

1988: The '49ers voted again to take responsibility and assume the lead in The Horace Albright Visitors Center expansion. Director Dean Lemon headed this project, assisted by Director Earl Schmidt. Many hours were spent soliciting support and pledges, including travels to Washington D.C. A growing number of congressmen support us, however the economy is weak and funds are not available for this much needed project. Our task for now is preparedness and waiting.

1990: In Furnace Creek Ranch date grove (with permission) we dug and constructed eight sets of standard horseshoe pits for use of visitors and competitors during the Encampments.

1990: $13,000 was dedicated for the Breakfast Canyon archeological digs, where flash floods had uncovered an ancient storage granary.

1991: '49er volunteers completely refurbished and rearranged the outdoors Borax Museum on the Furnace Creek Ranch grounds. From time to time we have furnished work parties for the National Park Service for such activities as visitor counting and analysis. We have sponsored qualified college students to work as NPS interns in the Visitors Center.

1992: $5,000 was paid towards the walkers/bikers paved path leading from the Visitors Center to Harmony Borax Works.

1992: We cleaned up debris and opened former springs in the valley.

1995: Sponsored and supported Ted Fayes " Death Valley Memories" film with a $20,000 donation.

1998: $10,000 was pledged for stabilization and renovation of the former Emigrant Pass Ranger Station, which will become a satellite of the Visitors Center Museum. An additional $18,000 has been pledged towards the archives building at NPS headquarters at Cow Creek. Some of the '49er archives may be stored there.

1999: The '49ers were invited by the Tuleburgh Chapter of E. Clampus Vitus to participate in the placement of a plaque at the gravesite of William Lewis Manly at Woodbridge, CA. We helped defray the cost - our share being approximately $500.00.

For 50 years the Death Valley '49er Encampment has brought enjoyment and knowledge to thousands of visitors. We annually donate $1000.00 to the National Park Service to secure ambulance and medical services for our visitors.

We hope you have joined us by purchasing your membership

Centennial Directors — Top row, left to right, W.W.R. Harriman, Lloyd Mitchell, Larry Shaw, Ardis Manly Walker, Joseph Micciche. bottom row, Arthur M. Walker, Otto K. Olson, President Andy W. Noon, Maury Sorrells.

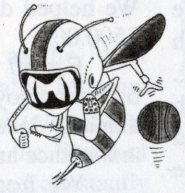
Death Valley '49er Scholarship Program

Co-Chair: Ray Peter - Co-Chair: Rick Tulles

The Death Valley '49ers in 1976 extended their outreach program to the Death Valley Community and Death Valley High School in Shoshone, California by awarding an academic four- year scholarship to one of its graduating seniors. Now the students must complete their junior and senior studies at the high school located at Shoshone, CA Beatty, NV or Pahrump, NV

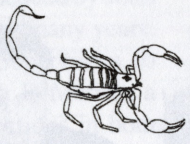
Since 1976 the '49ers have awarded twenty-nine scholarships. Eight students graduated from college. One is currently working on his Ph.D. at Ohio State University.

This program is funded by individuals, and memorial donations, '49er memberships sales and art generously donated by the artist for the Quick Draw, Composite Auctions as well as donated art at the Artist Breakfast at Furnace Creek. Auctions at Stovepipe Wells and occasional Board of Directors meetings also generate funds.



Beatty High School

Pahrump High School



Death Valley High

The scholarship qualifications are: • Two year residence within Death Valley Unified School District. • Completion of all required high school studies for high school graduation. •Participation in school and community activities. •Letters of recommendation from teachers and community leaders. • Submit the Death Valley'49er Scholarship application to the Death Valley Scholarship Committee by December 15 of the preceding graduating year. • A good academic record.

The scholarship award of $2200.00 per academic year (payable monthly) requires that the student be enrolled in 12 to 15 academic units needed for a college degree. The following grade point averages are the minimum scores required for each semester of each academic year. • Freshman year GPA of 2.000 points or grade C • Sophomore year GPA of 2.333 points or grade C+ • Junior and Senior year GPA or 2.667 of grade B-

In the event the grade average is not maintained the student, his parents and the college are contacted to determine if the student needs tutorial assistance in a particular subject. The '49ers want to provide as much assistance as is necessary for the student to graduate.

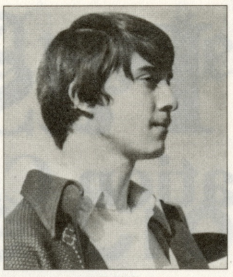
Students are transported by bus to and from home and school over considerable distances. This impacts a student's day and family life style. The following quotation illustrates the extremes of distance, time and commitment to attend school. "For several years there were two students living at Stovepipe Wells Village who rode a motor scooter the 27 miles to Furnace Creek Elementary School, where they boarded the school bus and continued on 65 more miles to attend Death Valley High School in Shoshone. This made a daily ride of over 180 miles in six years from seventh grade to graduation. This would amount to some 31,500 miles per year or 189,000 miles in six years necessary to complete a high school education. This is more than seven times around the world in a school bus."**

The Death Valley '49ers are proud to support education in the Death Valley Unified School District and sincerely appreciates the family dedication to adjust their life style to bus schedules and requisite travel time of their children.

Editor's Note: Thanks are due to Chairman Ray Peter for the precise development of the '49er Scholarship Program.

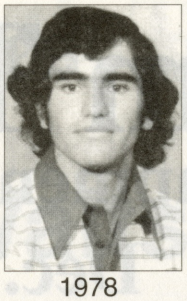
** "A Story of Death Valley Schools," by Leland J. Gritzner, no pagination, Chapter "Death Valley Union High School", 1986, Tecopa, California.

1976
Barbara Cottonwood
Death Valley High

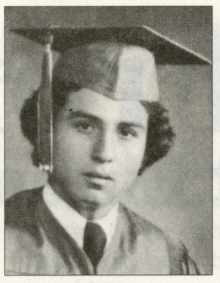


1976
Michael Munson
Death Valley High

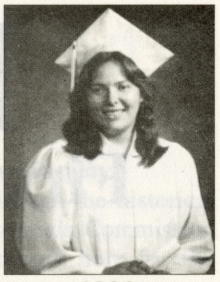
1977
Benito Gomez
Death Valley High



1978
Enrique Escamella
Death Valley High



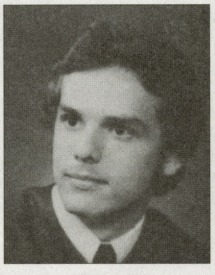
1979
Frederico Gomez
Death Valley High



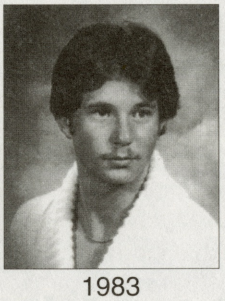
1980
Peggy Stotts
Death Valley High

1981
Margaret Pooler
Death Valley High

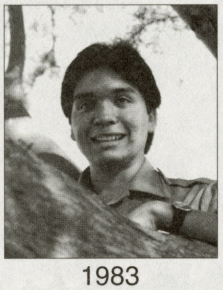
1981
Ann Marie Rasmussen
Death Valley High



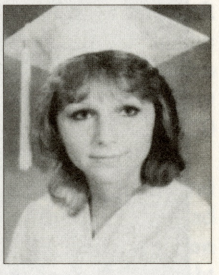
1982
Brian Quesenberry
Death Valley High



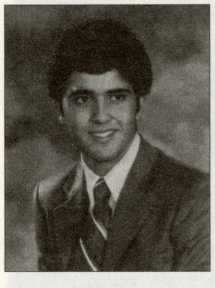
1983
Brian Jonas
Death Valley High



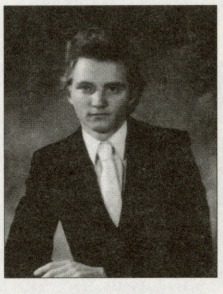
1983
Richard Boland
Death Valley High



1984
Cindy Miland
Death Valley High

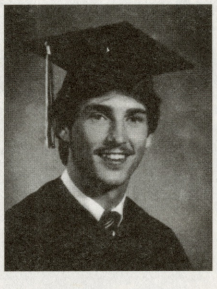


1984
Raul Herrera
Death Valley High



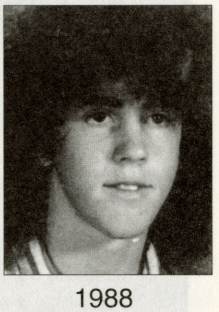
1985
Mike Polda
Death Valley High

1986
Angela Wilson
Death Valley High



1986
Tom Williams
Death Valley High

1987
Laura Padilla
Death Valley High

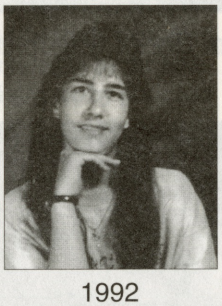


1988
Joe Weber
Death Valley High

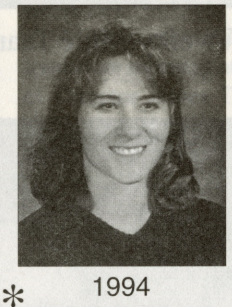
1989
Sandra Wilson
Death Valley High

1990
Michelle Westphal
Death Valley High

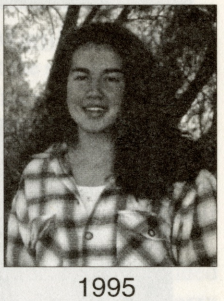
1991
Jean Stotts
Death Valley High



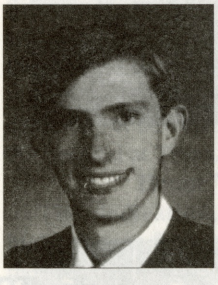
1992
Crystal Palmer
Beatty High



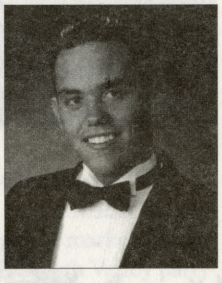
* 1994
Erin Winters
Beatty High



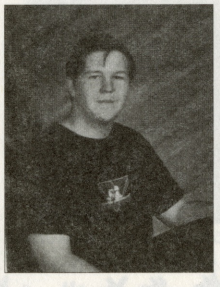
1995
Winnifer Jones
Beatty High



1996
Sean Harmon
Pahrump High



1997
Ryan Shoshone
Beatty High



1998
Andrew Stovik
Pahrump HIgh

1999
Jessie Hogue
Beatty High

1997 Additional

In addition to the scholarship award this year, two distinguished graduates, April Greene and Daniel Fiske were awarded a one time scholarship through gifts in memory of Harold Kirk, dedicated long-time chairman of the Scholarship Committee. No photos available.

**1993 No Award*

From The Past

First Encampment, Desolation Canyon

Dec. 3, 1949

The Original Twenty-Mule Team Borax wagon at Desolation Canyon. Russell Spainhover, Mule Skinner.

Los Angeles Times Dec. 2, 1949

Huge Crowd Waits Death Valley Fete

Governor's Plane Delayed by Fog, Unable to Land in Dark

By Ed Ainsworth, Times Staff Representative

DEATH VALLEY, Dec. 2 - An unscheduled thrill was given the thousands of visitors to the Death Valley Centennial celebration here tonight when the airplane bearing Gov. Warren from Sacramento made several passes at the unlighted Death Valley Field but was unable to land.

The crowds gasped as the pilot brought the two-engine plane over the field at an extremely low elevation but decided against setting down. When the Governor was late due to being held up by heavy fog in Sacramento and it became apparent that he would have to try to land after dark, automobiles were strung out along the landing strip with their headlights on in an attempt to provide enough lights. The beams were too faint, however, to give the pilot sufficient confidence to try the landing.

Lands at Trona Field

After the ineffectual landing attempts the Governor was taken to the airfield at Trona and brought back here by automobile over the new Jayhawker Trail which was dedicated this afternoon.

Misadventure attended both the dedication of the Jayhawker Trail at Valley Wells, just outside Trona, at which the Governor was scheduled to be honor guest, and another at Stovepipe Wells. The fog in Sacramento prevented the Governor from arriving in time for the Trona ceremony and the illness of George Palmer Putnam, who was to preside, marred the ensuing ceremony at Stovepipe Wells. Putnam is in the hospital at Trona.

Honor '49er Party

The dedication, in addition to the highway, was for historical markers along the route of the origianl Death Valley party of 1849 in whose honor the entire series of celebrations is being conducted this week end.

By this evening it was evident that a far greater crowd than had been anticipated was storming the valley for the centennial events.

Almost solid lines of automobiles were strung out along the highways tonight.

By airplane, helicopter, truck, automobile, wagon and horseback — thousands of visitors from many States converged upon Furnace Creek and Desolation Canyon for the extraordinary events intended to glorify the heroic spirit of the original Death Valley party of 1849.

Accommodations Crowded

The entire celebration was a free spectacle arranged for the public by Death Valley '49ers, Inc., and the California State Centennials Commission as one of the State's official centennial observances.

Nearly 1500 house trailers were in the valley this morning and the roads were alive with more campers pouring in by the hour.

Film stars were arriving too by plane and car to lend their voices to the pageant tomorrow.

They included James Stewart — narrator for the story of William Lewis Manley and John Rogers who walked from Death Valley to San Fernando Valley to obtain aid for their stranded comrades here in the winter of 1849-50 — Gail Russell, Guy Madison, Anne Revere, Balladist Chill Wills, Parley Baer, Charles Victor, Joseph Granby, Meliss McClure, Kathleen Freeman and Soloist Olive Mae Beach.

Crowds even this early — 30 hours before the pageant which is set for 2 p.m. tomorrow in Desolation Canyon — were milling about the Furnace Creek Ranch.

They watched as the mule drivers hitched the 20-mule team which had been driven here with the original borax wagons from Lone Pine by Russ Spainhover and Bruce Morgan.

Relics on Display

They crowded through the historical caravan of the Centennials Commission which had been brought here for the occasion.

The caravan — two huge busses — contains priceless treasures of California history such as the original brass plate left here by Sir Francis Drake in 1579, the golden spike which united the transcontinental railroad in 1869, and many other items pertinent to the 1946-50 centennial celebration period.

In Desolation Canyon, a huge natural amphitheater about four miles on the road from Furnace Creek to Badwater, an amazing transformation has been wrought in four weeks.

Steel grandstands have arisen to accommodate 6000 spectators.

Stands have been built to hold the Hollywood Bowl Symphony Orchestra and the Redlands University chorus which will provide musical background for the pageant.

More than 1,000,000 gallons of water have been used to pack the earth and to level the dust where huge road machines gouged out automobile roads and an immense staging and square-dance area.

Grofé to Conduct

Otto K. Olson and his engineers were preparing surprising effects for the audience.

A dress rehearsal will be conducted tomorrow morning at the site under the eye of Director James Tracy of the Pasadena Playhouse.

Conductors Ferde Grofé and Frank Allen Hubbell will conduct the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra in compositions of their own.

Campfire entertainment was provided tonight under the leadership of Harry Hofmann and Bruce Morgan. Morgan had brought in successfully his trek from Owens Valley.

From Los Angeles today came an equestrian trek, by trailer, to take part tomorrow in a pioneer cavalcade under the direction of David Malloy as the climax of the pageant.

All over the floor of the valley today, covered wagons and ox teams and spans of mules and "pioneers" prepared to join in the pageant tomorrow.

Death Valley was ready for its supreme hour.

Los Angeles Times Dec. 1949

They Still Have the Spirit of Death Valley Pioneers

By Ed Ainsworth

Out in the vast homeland of Panamint Pete and the 20-mule teams the California public last week end gave the finest example of good humor, patience and splendid sportsmanship that I have ever seen.

It was at the Death Valley Centennial Celebration.

Nobody knew ahead of time what size crowd to expect. After all, Death Valley is 300 miles from Los Angeles.

At first the sponsors of the celebration, the Death Valley '49ers, Inc., in cooperation with the State Centennial Commission dared to hope only for a maximum crowd of 5000 hardy souls. But, to be on the safe side, steel grandstands for 6000 persons were erected.

But on Dec. 3 those of us who had arrived early at Furnace Creek in Death Valley awoke at dawn of a cloudless brilliant day to witness a miracle in the desert.

The long flat roads coming into the valley had been transformed during the night. Now — even at 6 a.m. — they were covered solidly for miles with automobiles, bumper to bumper. Uncounted thousands of them stretched out toward the sand dunes and Scotty's Castle down one way, and toward Death Valley Junction the other. Overhead, airplanes circled for landings at the desert airport. A helicopter skipped here and there.

The sweating Highway Patrol, trying to cope with the astounding turnout, estimated 65,000 persons were in the valley by early that morning.

Where the cars were backed up for miles, waiting the time to go down the one narrow road to the pageant staging area four miles south of Furnace Creek, the greatest jollity prevailed. Campfires were started. The aroma of coffee and bacon filled the air. Jokes resounded.

On the great front porch of the Furnace Creek Inn atop the rocky eminence on the east side of the valley, officials looked down with awe on the tremendous assemblage.

This was California's acclaim to the intrepidity of its forebears; its accolade to human courage as expressed in the exploits of the Death Valley party of 1849, and its rescuers, William Lewis Manly and John Rogers, who were the heroes of the historical pageant.

All day, out there in the sun, the crowds stayed good-humored despite cars running out of gas, the traffic tie-up, the failure of many to be able to reach Desolation Canyon for the performance, sunburn and sore feet from hiking.

I never heard one word of complaint from man, woman or child, even when the pageant was over and the long shadows of night crawled up the yellow and red flanks of the Funeral Mountains and the wearisome journey home or to a dry camp in the desert began. Everybody helped everybody else.

It made me proud that an American crowd still can grin at its own discomforts, even in the wilderness.

John Anson Ford shows centennial dodger to Joyce Brier Scharr. Her great grandmother was Juliet Brier, heroine of the 1849 party.

Camping for the night after pageant proved a wise choice for these visitors, who thereby avoided a traffic jam even worse than the one that morning.

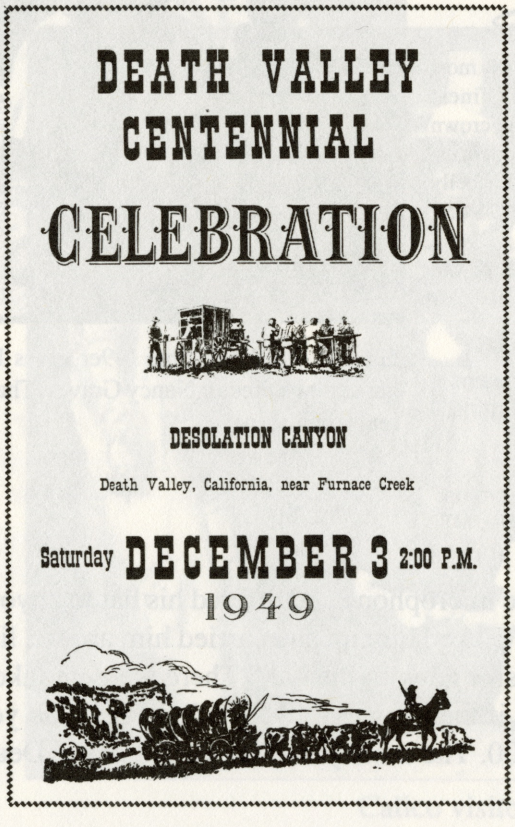
An Ainsworth Tribute

ED AINSWORTH

Ed Ainsworth was born in Texas in 1902 and first arrived in California in the early 1920's. He explored California from border to border and from his whimsical pen wrote glowing accounts of what he discovered. Some of his great books included *Eagles Fly West*, 1946; *California Jubilee*, 1948; *California*, 1951; *Painters of the Desert*, 1960; and *Beckoning Desert*, in 1962. He had a long career with the Los Angeles Times as State Editor, City Editor, Editorial Page Editor, Columnist and feature writer. His last book, *The Cowboy in Art*, couldn't begin to compare with his travels as he searched out every cowboy artist for an interview and a place in this book. Though Ed is gone from view (1968), his voice continues to talk to us through the printed word. His glowing account of the 1949 Death Valley '49ers Encampment has been reproduced in this book for all to enjoy.

KATIE AINSWORTH

The dedication of her husband's book, *Beckoning Desert*, reads: "To my wife Katherine who shares my love of the Desert and who has been the inspiration for this book." Katie was not only an inspiration to her husband but to every member of the Death Valley '49ers. She was a scholar of the West, wrote several books and was a guiding force in the Æ49ers from the very beginning.



THE KATIE AINSWORTH MEMORIAL BOOK COLLECTION was established in 1990 after her death. Artist Bill Bender did an oil painting entitled "Katie Come Quick! They're Playing Our Sunset". The proceeds from its sale were used to establish the memorial. The park curator and a committee from the '49ers are responsible for its operation. The book collection is an accumulation of literature concerning the cultural and natural history of Death Valley.

If you have books that fit this guideline and wish to donate, contact Joanne Deters, collection committee member at (626) 358-7026 or the park curator at the visitors center.

Our '49er Hats

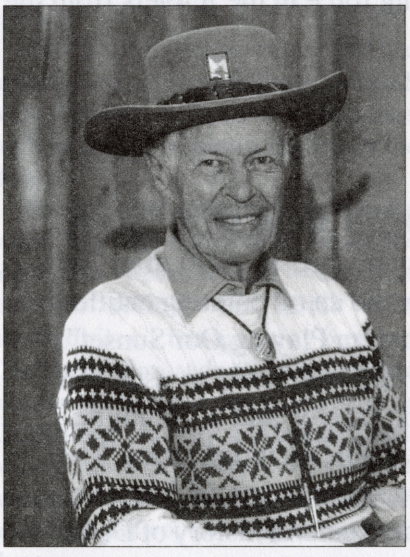
G. Henry Stetson shows Hugh Tolford the "new" Boss of the Plains hat. Photo by Curt Armstrong.

G. HENRY STETSON, 1887-1983

Henry Stetson, son of John Stetson, was involved with the Death Valley '49ers for over 25 years. When in Death Valley, he always stayed at Stovepipe Wells Hotel. Peg Lewis, '49er Life Director, remembers how Henry would show up at every Encampment dressed in his beautiful, tailored western clothes, sporting two holstered engraved pistols. For many years, Henry Stetson stood tall and poised in the ring as Official Starter at the Burro Flapjack Contest, where he fired one of those fancy pistols to signal the start of another Burro Race. The winner received a special Stetson Hat presented by Henry.

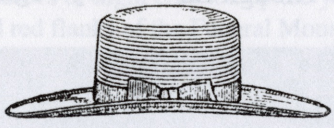
Henry not only gave the '49ers strong support in our formative years but he also made another contribution by commissioning the John B. Stetson Hat Company to revive for the '49ers, the famed Boss of the Plains hat, an original design initiated by his father a hundred years ago. Today, almost every Director and Advisor can be seen wearing this distinctive hat.

Excerpts from an article by Hugh Tolford in the Fall 1983 Death Valley News.



Richard D. Tullis, MD and the $1000.00 Hat

STETSON HATS



No. 52302 Stetson's Boss of the Plains, most popular cowboy hat made from the finest selected nutria fur. Silk band and lining, crown 4 1/2 inches: brim 4 inches; weight 6 ounces. The sizes run from 6 3/4 to 7 1/2. color belly nutria. What size do you wear? Each . . . $4.50 If by mail, postage extra 38 cents.

This ad appeared in Sears, Roebuck & Co. Catalog No. 110, Fall 1900

Cowboy Poetry

A cowboy hat's made with great pains
To guard him from sunshine and rains,
With a wide band for sweat
So his eyes don't get wet,
And a crown that's too big for his brains.

Limerick by Gwen Peterson, Big Timber, MT

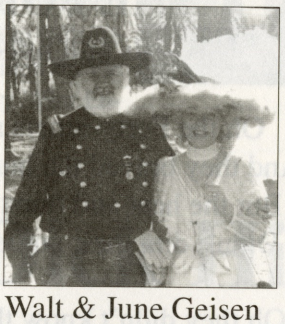
Ginny Lyon, long time '49er gives her hat to new Director Nancy Graves. That's real friendship.

In 1998 the Art auction was a little slow so Tullis picked up the microphone and offered his hat to anyone that would give $1000.00 to the scholarship fund. Don Casler picked him up and carried him around like a painting at which time his wife, Joyce, announced "He doesn't go with the hat". There were no takers until the end of the breakfast when a lady came up and asked if the hat was still for sale - Rick said yes. She replied "No it isn't" and handed him a check for $1000.00. The money was deposited in the Death Valley Scholarship fund.

Photos from the past

Princess Whitefeather

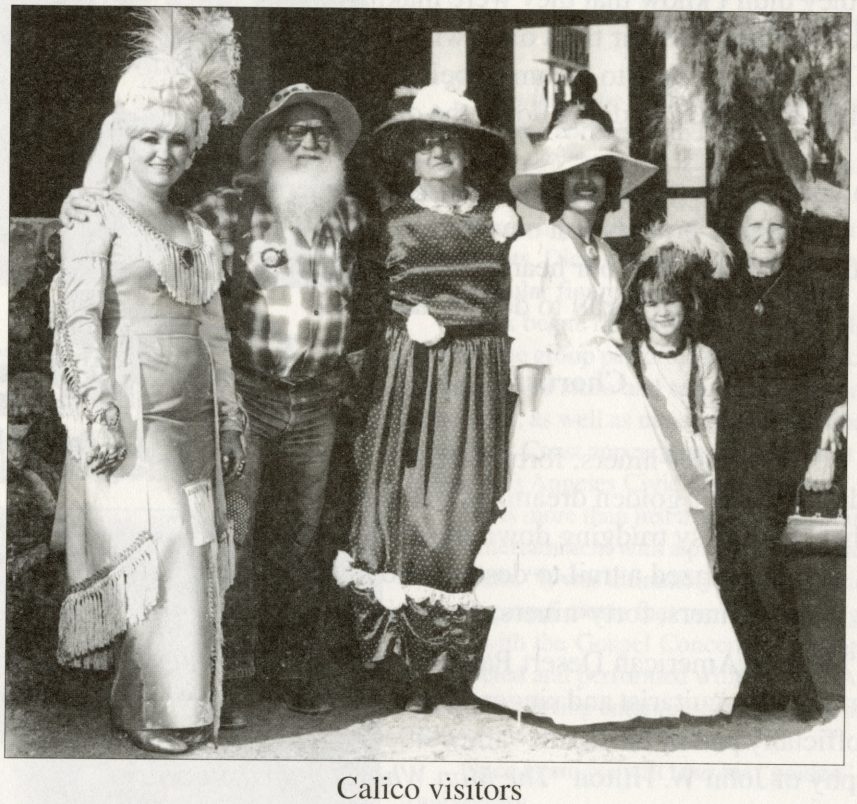
Wearing costumes isn't something new to the '49ers. This photo was taken at the 1957 Encampment . Left to right are: Mary DeDecker, Katherine Krater, Anne Serven and Gwen Mathews.



Walt & June Geisen

Ole Bearclaw

Harry Cullum Photo



Calico visitors

Gayle and Ardis Walker

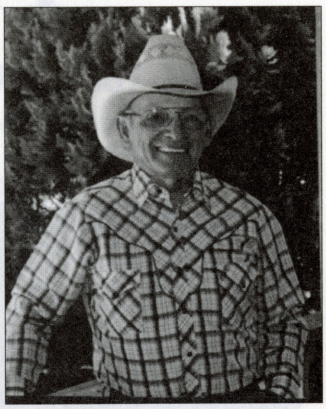
Entertainers

Phee and Ken Graydon

Death Valley Songs and Stories, Cowboy Poetry, Old Prospector Race, and m/c many other events

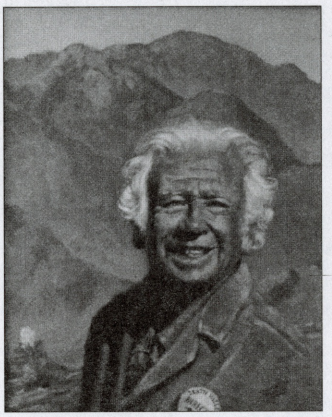
"Doc" Denning

With his wife Maxine
The Doc Denning Show,
Cowboy Poetry, Costume Event



Tom Leftwich

Entertainer Since 1983
"Gospel Sing", Ballads & Songs, Gold Panning, "Dancing Under the Stars", Joe Doctor Tall Tales and Country Jamboree.



John Hilton
1905-1983

"THE FORTY-NINERS"

Words and music by John W. Hilton

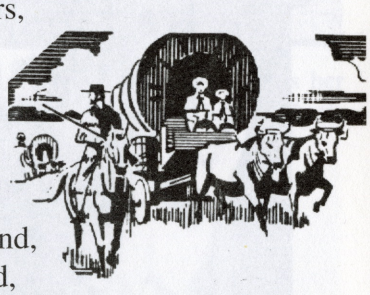
Oh the Forty-niners rolled across Death Valley,
And they braved the burning wastes and barren sanc
But the heat and thirst and danger of Death Valley
Didn't dim their golden dreams of promised land.

Oh they didn't know that they were making his'try
As they pushed their tired oxen with the goad.
They had no time to dream of being heroes,
They were busy trudging down the dusty road.

Oh you're more than just a mem'ry Forty-niners,
And your bravery can never all be told.
You will live within our hearts oh Forty-niners,
For you blazed a trail to destiny and gold.

Chorus

Forty-niners, forty-niners
didn't dim their golden dreams of promised land,
they were busy trudging down the dusty road,
For you blazed a trail to destiny and gold.
Forty-niners, forty-niners, forty-niners.



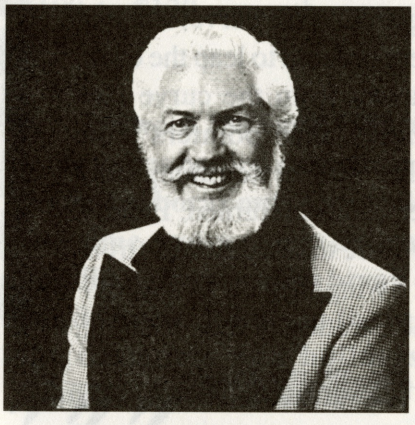
John Hilton, best known as the "Dean of American Desert Painters" was also a distinguished botanist, geologist , zoologist, noted writer, linguist, guitarist and singer. Hilton composed this song and sang it at the 1974 Encampment. It is now officially part of the Death Valley '49ers. Thanks to Katherine Ainsworth for remembering it in her biography of John W. Hilton "*The Man Who Captured Sunshine*."

The Reinsmen

Entertainers Since 1969

The original Reinsmen, formed in 1962, consisted of Dick Goodman, Jerry Compton and Don Richardson. They performed throughout southern California and in 1967 were joined by artist and musician Robert Wagoner. Bob got them a job at the annual Death Valley Encampment in 1969 and they have appeared yearly ever since. Doc Denning joined the group in 1978 and added his remarkable vocals, narrative ability, song writing and fiddle playing. Harvey Walker, who had occasionally joined the group in appearances over the years as singer and fiddle player became a regular member in the mid-90's along with Johnny Blankenship. Their addition brought a new dimension to the Reinsmen sound.

In 1998 The Reinsmen were inducted into The Western Music Association HALL OF FAME. Their long and illustrious career has taken them into the realm of movies and television. They have performed on stage with some of music's greats; Rex Allen, Ken Curtis, Jimmy Wakely, Merle Travis, Tex Williams, Marty Robbins and many others. They traveled with Rex Allen for over 15 years and recorded an album with Rex Allen, Jr. No matter where they have played, they have left each listener with an appreciation of the beauty, majesty and humor that has associated them with the real west and the real cowboy. Sincere thanks to all the Reinsmen for the wonderful music you have provided at the annual Death Valley '49er Encampments.



Dick Hilleary

Entertainer since 1968
m/c Hootenanny Breakfast, Sunday Morning Sing, "Hilleary High" Campfire, m/c Fiddle Contest

Dick Hilleary

Entertainer Since 1968

"It is my hope to always be able to leave a thought as well as a smile, striving to turn up the corners of the heart as well at the mouth." Has Dick Hilleary's hope been realized? "You bet it has", say thousands of '49ers visitors who have been delighted year after year.

In serving as Master of Ceremonies at campfires, morning breakfasts and many other events, Dick's talent for weaving verse, song, anecdote and humor have made him a popular figure these past 32 years.

Dick began his career in Denver, Colorado, where he sang top tenor in a male quartet. The group performed at banquets, conventions, theatre groups, civic organizations and in radio and television. The ensuing years have seen Dick perform in night clubs, as well as major theatre and concert halls throughout the country. Some of his West Coast appearances have been at the Hollywood Bowl, the Greek Theatre and the Los Angeles Civic Light Opera.

He is more than just a performer, though; he is a "music Minister". A man who offers entertainment with a purpose. In speaking of his love for simple gospel music, Dick states. "It was ultimately though a series of spiritual experiences brought about through gospel music that my life truly began to take on its direction." In his association with the Gospel Concerts of Redondo Beach in Southern California, Dick has traveled and performed with some of America's top gospel artists. His brand of clean and uplifting entertainment has become well known throughout this part of the country.

Once again we will hear his "golden" voice at the Death Valley '49ers Golden Anniversary.

The 20 Mule Team Returns

Thanks to the efforts of '49er Director Sue Conn, Bobby Tanner of Red's Meadow Pack Train and the United States Borax Co. we again have the privilege of viewing this prize event in Death Valley.

Furnace Creek Resort, Death Valley National Park and Cal Trans have also extended their cooperation and the assistance needed to make this "special event" possible. Special posters and an exciting video are for sale to help defray the cost. Your support would be appreciated.

What is a mule?

The mule often regarded as one of nature's oddities, is a cross between a male donkey, commonly known as a jackass, and a female horse, a mare. The cross can be reversed with a horse stallion and a female donkey, or jenny, producing what is referred to as a hinny.

A mule can rarely reproduce, due to only having 63 chromosomes that cannot pair off equally and the result is an animal that cannot produce fertile gametes, but durability and good sense are their trademarks. Sometimes their pure intelligence gains them the reputation of being stubborn, especially when their common sense exceeds that of their handlers.

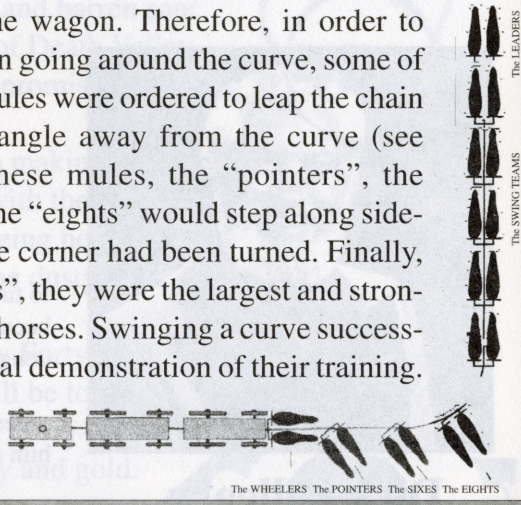
Long ears, surefootedness, braying, stamina, toughness and intelligence come from the donkey. Mobility and size are inherited from the horse. Versatility, durability and personality make mules great companions, earning the respect of mankind as a worthy beast of burden throughout history.

Swing the team around curves

It was relatively easy to drive the twenty-mule team along a straight road. However, swinging a curve in a mountain pass or over rough terrain presented a real test of driver and team.

Chosen for their intelligence and ability to lead the others, the first two mules in the train were aptly called "leaders". The next ten mules were known as "swing team". Following the swing team came the "pointers," "sixes," and "eights".

Sections of the mule team were chosen and trained to perform special jobs. As the team started around a sharp curve, the chain tended to be pulled into a straight line between the lead mules and the wagon. Therefore, in order to keep the chain going around the curve, some of the span of mules were ordered to leap the chain and pull an angle away from the curve (see drawing). These mules, the "pointers", the "sixes" and the "eights" would step along sideways until the corner had been turned. Finally, the "wheelers", they were the largest and strongest, usually horses. Swinging a curve successfully was a real demonstration of their training.



Pacific Coast Borax Company' s Death Valley Team

BORAX

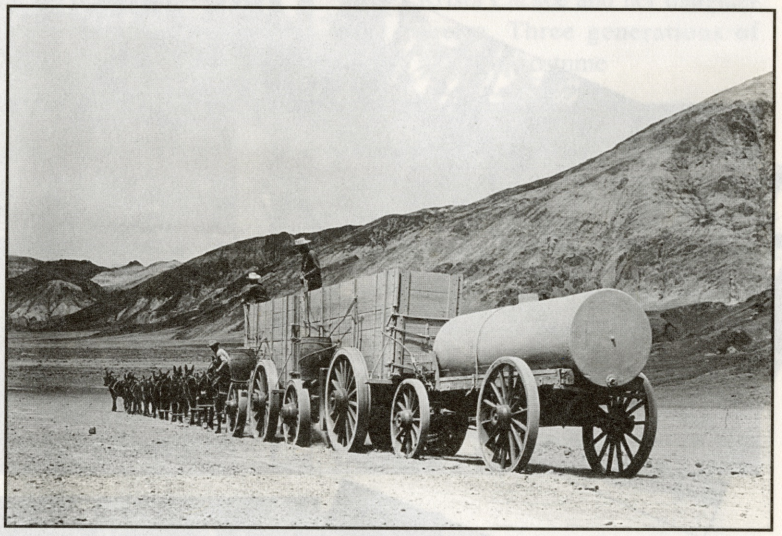
20 MULE TEAM

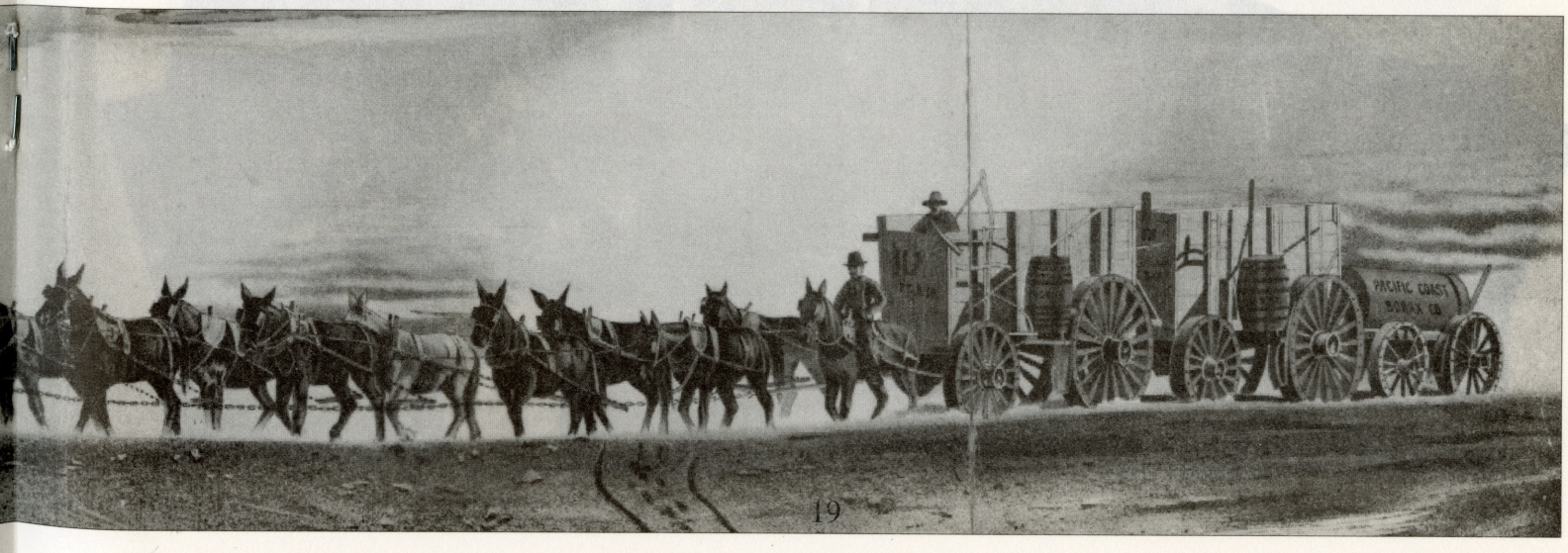
The Mule Skinner

Each twenty mule team consisted of two men, a driver (the muleskinner) and a swamper. The muleskinner drove his team from the "box" of the first wagon, or, in rough going, from the back of the "nigh wheeler," or left-hand animal nearest the wheel. His only means of controlling the teams were his voice and the "jerkline", a long rope running through a collar ring of each left-hand mule up to the leaders. A steady pull turned the team to the left; a series of jerks sent it to the right.

The swamper helped apply the brakes on downgrades, gathered fuel, cooked, washed dishes and unharnessed the mules at the end of each day's run. Drivers earned $100 to $120 a month, swampers about $75.

Between 1883 and 1889, the twenty mule teams hauled more than 20 million pounds of borax out of the valley. During this time, not a single animal was lost nor did a single wagon break down — a considerable tribute to the ingenuity of the designers and builders and the stamina of men and mules.





Everyone Loves a Parade

1st Year - 1992

Co-Chairs: Dave Heffner, Sue Conn

Pioneer Costume Contest

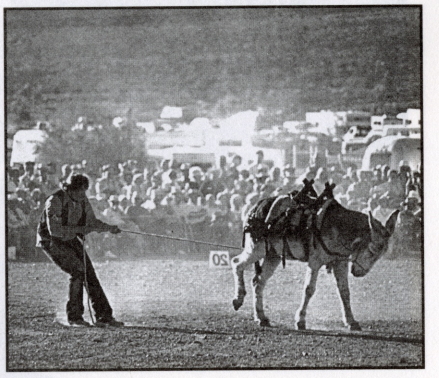
First started as a Bonnet Contest in 1991, now one of the most popular events.

Chair — Sue Conn
Judges — Kris & Roger Watson
Entertainer — Doc Denning

Judge Kris Watson, her daughter Krista Cacace and her daughter Sierra. Three generations of '49ers in costume

Burro Flapjack Sweepstakes

1st Started 1954
Last time held - 1985
Over two dozen prospectors, as stubborn as their burros, competed in a hilarious race of man and beast. By 1984 the NPS had actively removed over 6000 feral burros. In keeping with this removal program the '49ers honored their request to cease the Burro Race.

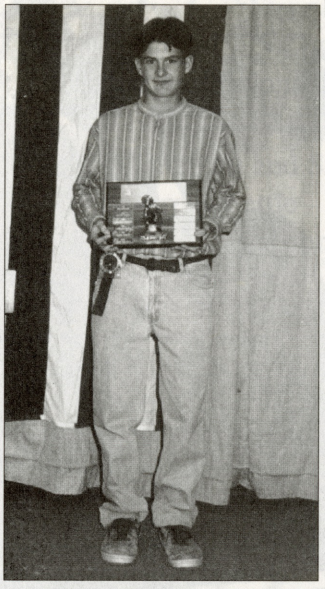


Old Prospector's Race

Co-Chair: Harry Tucker, Dave Heffner
1st Year - 1987 at Stove Pipe Wells

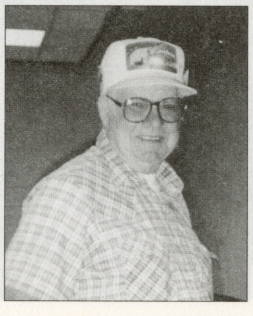
Old Time Fiddle Contest and Grassy Green Picking

1st Contest Held 1964
Chair: Phee Graydon



Other Entertainers

Old Time Fiddlers at SPW
Western Dance at F.C.
Bill Whitfield, MC
Song of the West
m/c Ron Hannold
Don Ridgeway and
Many others at F.C.



'49er Breakfasts

STOVE PIPE WELLS VILLAGE

Operated By AmFac *Parks & Resorts*

Bonnie Preston, Mgr.

At Furnace Creek Ranch and
Stovepipe Wells Village
1st Artist Breakfast in 1952

FURNACE CREEK
INN & RANCH RESORT
DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

Operated By AmFac *Parks & Resorts*

Toni Jepson, Public Relations
Cal Jepson, General Mgr.

Gold Panning Championship Contest and Family Gold Panning

First year 1978 as a drywash exhibition
1982 became a professional contest
The gold panning speed contest was invented by Glen Settles for the World Championships held at the Tropico Gold Mine in Rosamond, CA
1995 Changed to an amateur contest to increase '49er participation
Fastest professional time in Death Valley, 1987 was 9.34 seconds by Susan Von Schmacht
Fastest amateur time in Death Valley, 1997 was 15.72 seconds by Velma Woods

Judges: Glen Settle and Susan VonSchmacht
Assistant Doreen Settle
Starters: "Prospector John" Fautenberry and his wife Betty.

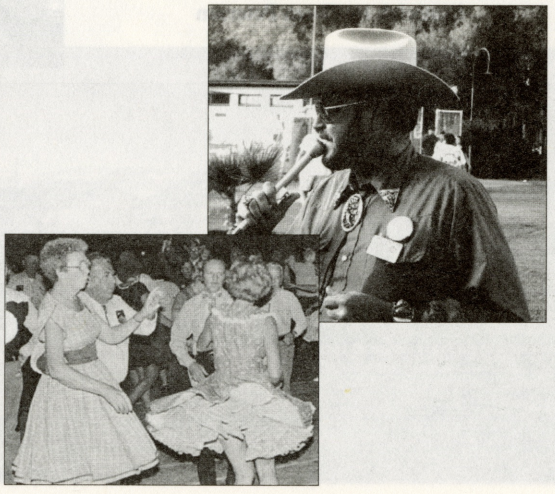
Entertainer: Tom Leftwich
Chair: Fran Leftwich
Co-Chair: Gene Pickering

Mule Packing

By Mark Berry. First Mule Packing Event - 1990
(Mark also conducts the Date Orchard Talks)

Square Dancing

Chair: Mac & Del McDaniel
Caller: Mike Wilder



Equestrian Trails, Inc.
Death Valley Trail Ride

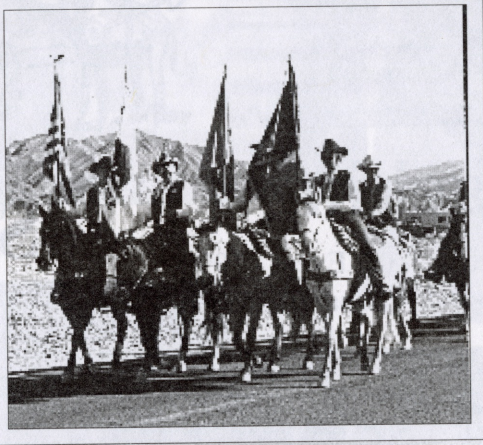
'49er Chair: Ken Graydon
ETI Chair: Gwen Allen
ETI Co-Chair: Bob Dodd

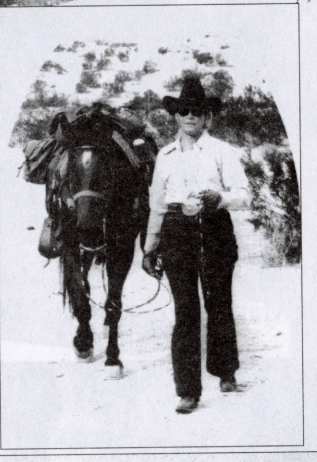
1st Ride: Nov. 9, 1962
Special U.S. Mail was carried over the route of the Twenty Mule Team from Boran, CA, to Death Valley. Now more than 100 riders plus their support members, travel from Ridgecrest, CA to Furnace Creek Ranch (125 miles in 5 $^{1}/_{2}$ days) over much of the mule team route.

Cowboy Poetry

Cowboys get up before dawn,
With many a curse and a yawn;
They eat plumb half-hearted
And wait to get started
A day they now claim is half gone.

Limerick by Gwen Petersen





Equestrian Trails Corral #14
Death Valley Wagon Train

'49er Chair: Ken Graydon
Wagonmaster: Chet St. Clair
1st Ride: 1967
60 miles — 5 days
A variety of wagons, some authentic, hitched to mules, horses and sometimes pulled by man. All members are in pioneer costumes.

Golf

Chair: Dale Jones
F.C.G.C. Pro - Rick Heitzig
1st Tournament 1976

Patio Talks

Chair: Bill Newbro
"Meet our Harvey Girl"
Diane Heffner

Borax Museum

Historic Tour conducted by '49er Dean Lemon

Joe Doctor's Tall Tales

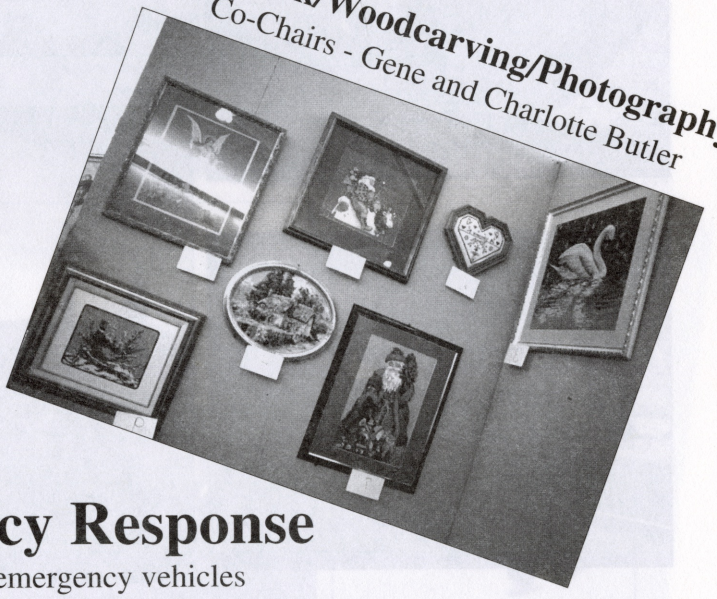
Chair: Cal Steibel

Wheelbarrow Race

Co-Chairs - Dave & Bev Stomps

Artwork/Woodcarving/Photography

Co-Chairs - Gene and Charlotte Butler



Emergency Response

EMT and NPS emergency vehicles

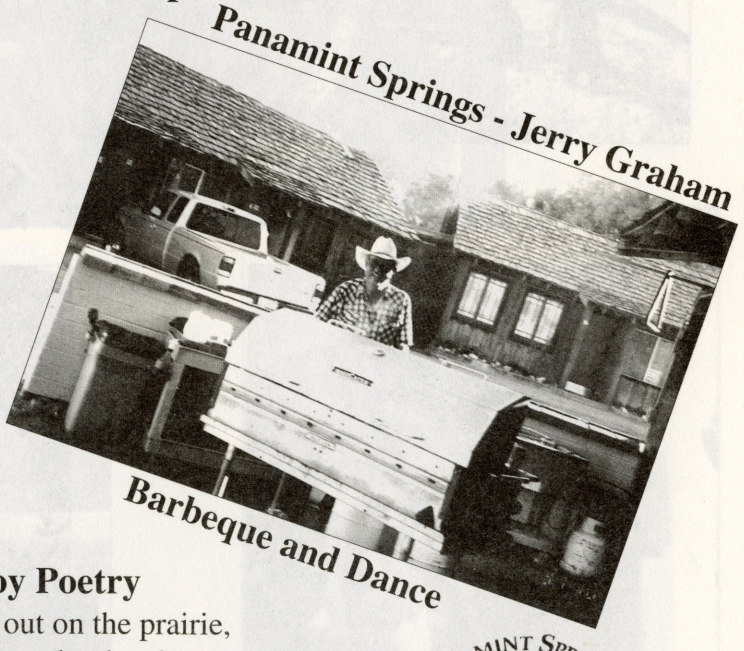
4 Wheel Drives and Car Caravan

Dr. Tom Clements, Geologist & '49er Director — Auto Tour originated in 1953
1st 4x4 Pre-Encampment event 1985 - Chair: Dave Heffner
Titus Canyon - Chair: Galen Hicks, Cottonwood Canyon - Co-Chair: Cal Steibel and Ron Graham

Geologist's Cabin at Striped Butte

Teakettle Junction

Panamint Springs - Jerry Graham



Barbeque and Dance

Cowboy Poetry

For riding way out on the prairie,
The facilities tend to be airy;
You can bet from the spot
Where you've chosen to squat,
That your profile will show — so don't tarry

Limerick by Gwen Petersen

PANAMINT SPRINGS
RESORT

Day and Overnight Hikes

1st Hike - 1967 was a 14 mile all-day trail hike along the Panamint Crest to the area's highest summit (11,049 feet). This was sponsored by the Desert Peak Section of the Sierra Club, Los Angeles chapter. Hikes in Death Valley are still conducted.

'49er Chair: Barbara Reber

Death Valley Hiker Association

Hikers Association - George Huxteble
Leader - Darrel Tomer

Hike with a Death Valley Historian Day Hike

Co-Chairs: LeRoy and Jean Johnson

Art Show

Sid Burns award

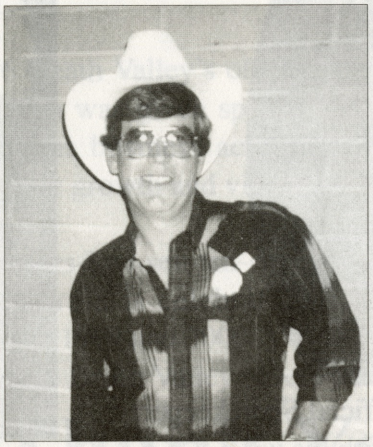
1951 - First art show at Furnace Creek Inn

Art Show

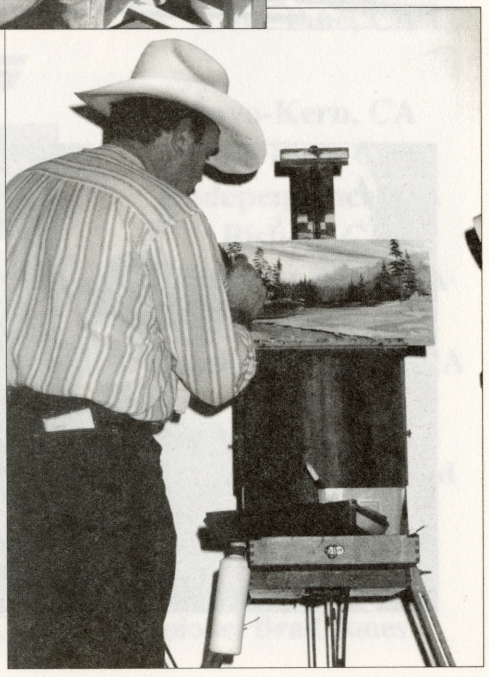
Chair: Rick Tullis
Co-Chairs: Joyce Tullis & Judy Hicks
Auctioneer: Steve Orcutt

1st Show - 1951 Furnace Creek Inn

Quick Draw
Composite
Paint Out



Steve Orcutt



Horseshoe Contest

First Held - 1990
Chair: Nancy Graves

Judge, Organizer and official Scorekeeper:
Blackie Harms with his wife.

Special Awards from the California Historical Society

FOUNDED 1871

March 13, 1982 The Death Valley '49ers were awarded "The Distinguished Award of Merit", an honor bestowed on a limited number of groups and individuals for distinguished contributions to preservation of California History.

On April 11, 1986 Death Valley's oldest continually operated business, Furnace Creek Ranch was given special recognition "For more than a century of continuous business activity, service and contribution to California's economic growth and vitality."

Earl Schmidt, Alpheus Bruton
100 Year Business Award

Sesquicentennial!! (ses-kwi-sen-ten-ee-ul)
The State of California is celebrating its Sesquicentennial (150th anniversary) in 1998, 1999 and 2000. The theme in 1999 is the gold rush and the pioneer spirit. Death Valley '49ers join you in this celebration.

Thank You

Big Mountain Publishing
Whitefish, Montana

Death Valley Chamber of Commerce

Mule Days

for mule information

Baker, CA
Ridgecrest, CA
Olancha, CA
Amargosa Valley, NV
Beatty, NV
Pahrump, NV
Lone Pine, CA

LIONS EYEMOBILE

INYO ASSOCIATES

Caltrans

Inyo-Kern, CA
Big Pine, CA
Independence, CA
Bishop, CA
Scotty's Castle, CA
Tecopa, CA
Death Valley Jct., CA

Death Valley Natural History Association

Automobile Club of Southern California AAA

Hey! Ridgeways-THANKS
Darlene and Ralph Ridgeway have been hosts at the gate to the fiddle stage parking lot behind Chevron for 13 years welcoming fiddlers, artists and riders.

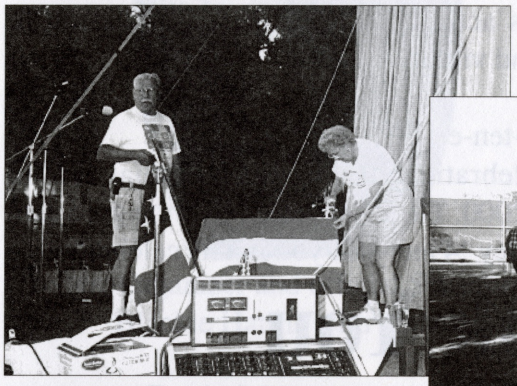
California National Guard
1106th AVCRAD
Fresno, CA.
Commanded by
Colonel Brad Jones

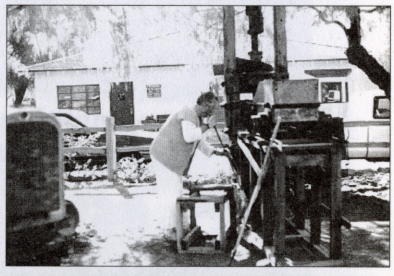
Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
91.1 FM Timbisha Free Radio
Hours: / SUN 12-4PM

Shoshone Development Inc.

'49ers Hard at Work

Getting ready for the Encampment, as well as many other projects in Death Valley throughout the year keep our work parties busy.





Assisting at the traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall.

Dick Conn, Don Casler, Joe Gumm, Bill Pool, Dave Heffner, Bill Hobbs, Bill Geist, Jim Graves
Encampment setup and dismantal crew.

Administration:
Chair - Leone Jones
Co- Chair - Mike Nunn

'49er's Membership

Sales Chair - Jan Pickering
Co-Chair - Barbara Reber

Sue and Dick Conn, Bill Lyon, Agnes Casler, Jan & Gene Pickering, Edie & Bill Pool, Judi & Galen Hicks, Dave Heffner, Wanda Gumm, Diane Heffner, Joe Gumm

Behind the Scene Committees

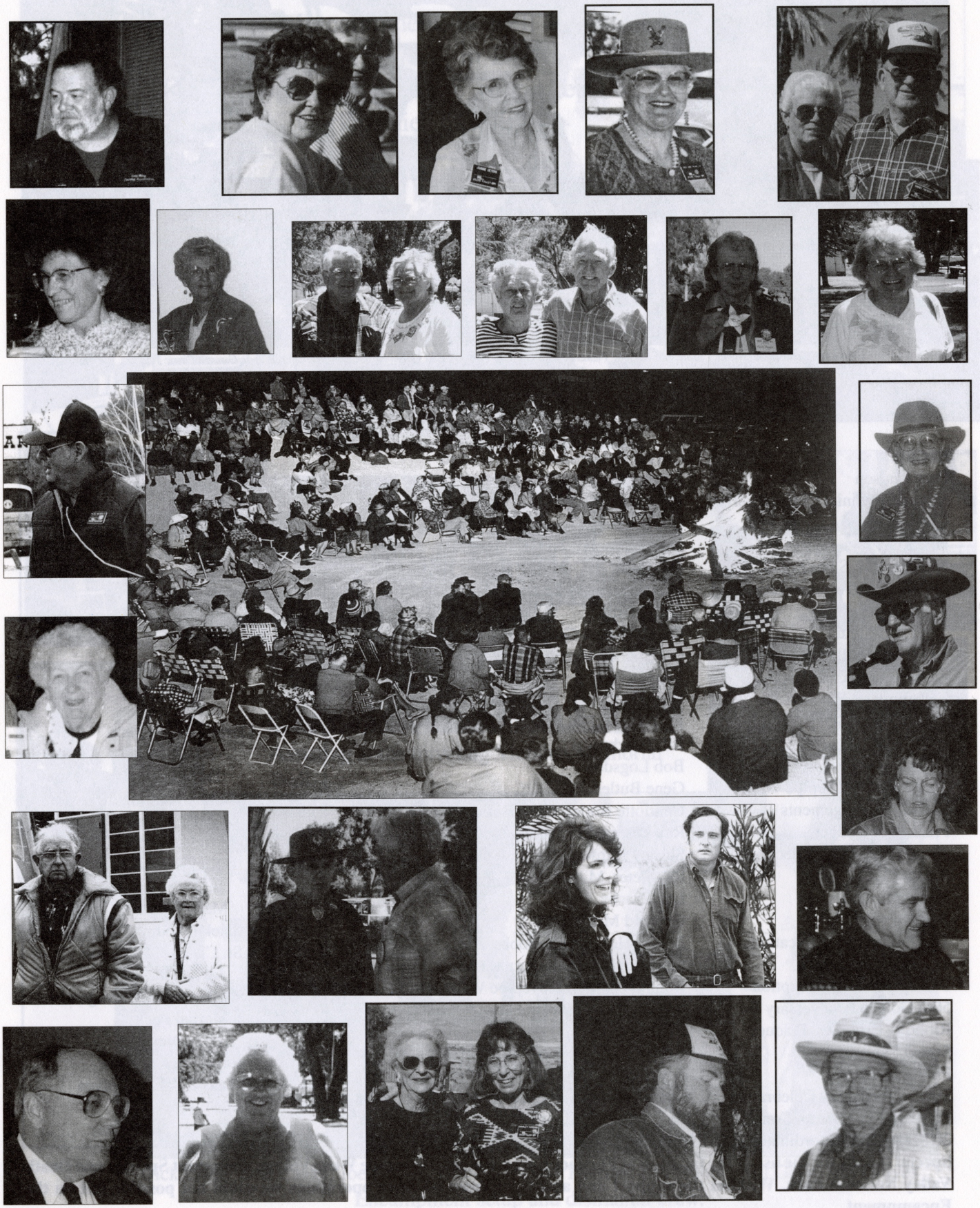
Archives	Cornel Rylaarsdam, Bill Newbro
Park Liaison	Shirley Harding, Leone Jones
Sesquicentennial Celebration	Lee Crosby, Ray Sisson
Chaplin	Mary Jessey
History	Jean Johnson, Leroy Johnson
Marketing & Sales	Bill Lyon
Membership Administration	Leone Jones, Mike Nunn
Publications	Lee Crosby
'49er Newsletter	Phee Sherline Graydon-Editor Publisher
Stovepipe Wells Events	Cal Steibel, Harry Tucker
Furnace Creek Liaison	Marian Peck
Encampment Production	Bill Pool
Encampment Setup & Dismantle	Dick Conn, Bill Geist
Patio Talks	Bill Newbro
Slide Show-Visitors Center	Bob Logsdon
Slide Show-Stovepipe Wells	Gene Butler
Meeting Arrangements	Charlotte Butler, Gene Butler
Finance & Budget	Ray Peter, Mike Nunn
Ainsworth Book Collection	Shirley Harding, Leone Jones
Audit	Ray Peter, Mike Nunn
Nominations	Lee Crosby
By-Laws	Garfield McDaniels
Telephone Communications	Jeanne Hobbs, Bill Hobbs
Presidents Reception	Cal & Toni Jepson, Furnace Creek Resort
Stovepipe Wells Reception	Bonnie Preston, Stovepipe Wells Village
50th Golden Anniversary Book	Marian Peck; Proof Reader, Shirley Harding
Ribbons, Trophies, Plaques	Dave Heffner
Sound Systems	Gary Raymond, Bill Geist & Cal Steibel
Photography	Gene Butler, Bob Logsdon
50th Anniversary Celebration	Edie Pool, Marian Peck, Sue Conn
Pioneer Descendents Committee	Earl Schmidt, Mary Jensen
20 Mule Team Coordinator	Sue Conn

Contributing Photographers

Bog Logsdon
Dave Heffner
Leone Jones
Gene Pickering
Gene Butler
Bill Whitfield
Sophia Finfrock
Nancy Graves
Sue Conn
Ray Sisson
Cornell Rylaarsdam
Bill Lyon
Dave Gark
Shirley Harding
Jeanne Hobbs
Tom Leftwich
Rick Tullis
Hugh Tolford
Mary Jensen
Dick Goodman
Chet St. Clair - ETI Wagon
Joyce Tullis
Helen Polanchon,. ETI Wagon
Marian Peck
Mike Nunn
National Park Service
Death Valley '49er Archives
U.S. Borax Co.
Dealth Valley Newsletter

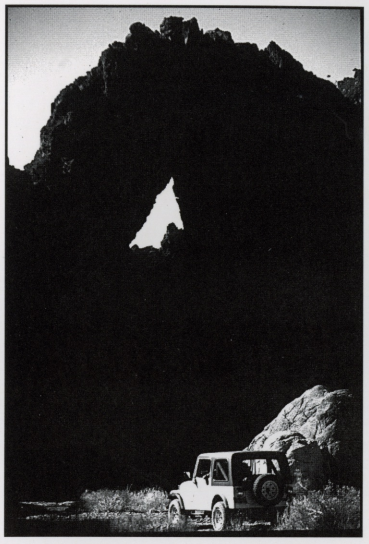
Special thanks for the use of the facilities at Furnace Creek Resort, Stovepipe Wells Village, Panamint Springs and Death Valley National Park. Without the support and assistance from all these operations we could not possible put on the Encampment.

Friends Around The Campfire



Where are we?

1.



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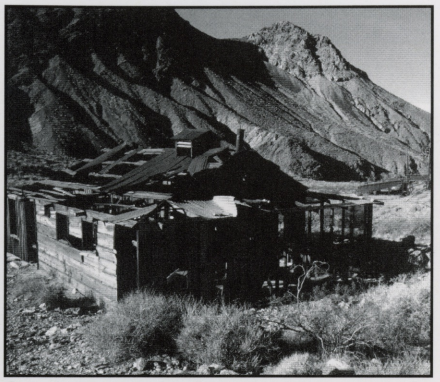

3.

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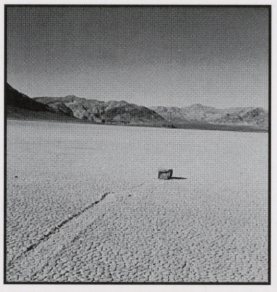

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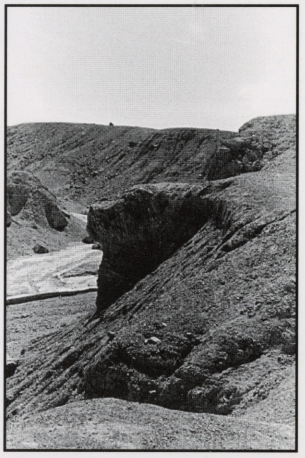

1. Echo Canyon
2. Eryo Mine
3. Ryan
4. Caves, Shoshone, CA
5. Devil's Hole
6. Race Track
7. St. Perrard at Artist Palette

Air view of Furnace Creek area during an Encampment.